

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

in a database, maintaining a collection of documents containing content, each of the documents including a hyperlink to another document and represented by a unique logical information object (LOIO), each unique LOIO pointing to one or more physical information objects (PHIOs) belonging to each unique LOIO, each of the PHIOs containing a variant of the content of [[a]] the document represented by the PHIO's respective LOIO, the variant being one of more attributes; and;

receiving a request for a first document in the collection and an entry context, the entry context specifying a respective value for each of one or more attributes;

determining a suitable PHIO when belonging to a first LOIO is response to a request, the first document being represented by the first LOIO, the suitable PHIO having attribute values matching the context entry if such a PHIO belongs to the first LOIO, and if no such PHIO belongs to the first LOIO, the suitable PHIO having attribute values matching a derived context, the derived context being generated by one or more successive applications to the entry context of one or more successively selected maps selected from a plurality of maps, each application of a map mapping a first attribute value to a second attribute value in the entry context or a derived context; and

providing the suitable PHIO in response to the request for the first document.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the request is through a hyperlink.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the attributes include one or more of a name of a component, a version of the component, a language of the document and/or a country version of the document.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein determining comprises:
~~receiving an entry context representing a desired set of values for one or more attributes;~~
~~generating a sequence of contexts from the entry context, each context in the sequence of contexts specifying a respective value for each of the one or more attributes;~~
determining a match of the entry context to one of the contexts in the sequence; and
returning a PHIO represented by the match.

5-8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[8]] 1 wherein the application of a map set is characterized by maps that change changes a single attribute value and/or the application of a maps map that change changes a pair of attribute values, the maps map providing a dimension in which neighboring relations with respect to an attribute or a combination of attributes are defined.

10. (Currently Amended) A computer program product, tangibly embodied in a machine-readable storage device an information carrier, for maintaining a database, the computer program product being operable to cause data processing apparatus to:
maintain a collection of documents containing content, each of the documents including a hyperlink to another document and represented by a unique logical information object (LOIO), each unique LOIO pointing to one or more physical information objects (PHIOs) belonging to each unique LOIO, each of the PHIOs containing a variant of the content of [[a]] the document represented by the PHIO's respective LOIO, the variant being one of more attributes; and;
receive a request for a first document in the collection and an entry context, the entry context specifying a respective value for each of one or more attributes;
determine a suitable PHIO when belonging to a first LOIO is response to a request, the first document being represented by the first LOIO, the suitable PHIO having attribute values matching the context entry if such a PHIO belongs to the first LOIO, and if no such PHIO belongs to the first LOIO, the suitable PHIO having attribute values matching a derived context, the derived context being generated by one or more successive applications to the entry context

of one or more successively selected maps selected from a plurality of maps, each application of a map mapping a first attribute value to a second attribute value in the entry context or a derived context; and

provide the suitable PHIO in response to the request for the first document.

11. (Original) The computer product of claim 10 wherein the request is through a hyperlink.
12. (Currently Amended) The computer product of claim 10 wherein determining comprises:
~~receiving an entry context representing a desired set of values for one or more attributes;~~
~~generating a sequence of contexts from the entry context, each context in the sequence of contexts specifying a respective value for each of the one or more attributes;~~
determining a match of the entry context to one of the contexts in the sequence; and
returning a PHIO represented by the match.
13. (Cancelled)
14. (Currently Amended) The computer product of claim [[8]] 10 wherein the application of a map set is characterized by maps that change changes a single attribute value and/or the application of a maps map that change changes a pair of attribute values, the maps map providing a dimension in which neighboring relations with respect to an attribute or a combination of attributes are defined.
15. (Currently Amended) A system for maintaining a database, the system comprising:
~~means for maintaining a collection of documents on a memory device containing content,~~
each of the documents including a ~~hyperlink to another document and~~ represented by a unique logical information object (LOIO), each unique LOIO pointing to one or more physical information objects (PHIOs) belonging to each unique LOIQ, each of the PHIOs containing a variant of the content of [[a]] ~~the document represented by the PHIO's respective LOIO, the variant being one of more attributes; and;~~
~~means for receiving a request for a first document in the collection and an entry context,~~
~~the entry context specifying a respective value for each of one or more attributes;~~

means for determining a suitable PHIO when belonging to a first LOIO is response to a request, the first document being represented by the first LOIO, the suitable PHIO having attribute values matching the context entry if such a PHIO belongs to the first LOIO, and if no such PHIO belongs to the first LOIO, the suitable PHIO having attribute values matching a derived context, the derived context being generated by one or more successive applications to the entry context of one or more successively selected maps selected from a plurality of maps, each application of a map mapping a first attribute value to a second attribute value in the entry context or a derived context; and

means for providing the suitable PHIO in response to the request for the first document.

16. (Original) The system of claim 15 wherein the request is through a hyperlink.
17. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 15 wherein the attributes include one or more of a name of a component, a version of the component, a language of the document and/or a country ~~version of the document~~.
18. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 15 wherein the means for determining comprises:

receiving an entry context representing a desired set of values for one or more attributes;
means for generating a sequence of contexts from the entry context, each context in the sequence of contexts specifying a respective value for each of the one or more attributes;
means for determining a match of the entry context to one of the contexts in the sequence; and
means for returning a PHIO represented by the match.
19. (Cancelled)
20. (Currently Amended) The system of claim [[8]] 15 wherein the application of a map set is characterized by maps that change changes a single attribute value and/or the application of a maps map that change changes a pair of attribute values, the maps map providing a dimension in

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which neighboring relations with respect to an attribute or a combination of attributes are defined.